BARGAIN BRIDE

by KATHARINE HAVILAND-TAYLOR ©1933 NEA SERVICE, INC.

CHAPTER XLVIII

d yet you can't because of woman" she questioned.

drew a deep breath that did g to aerate his sodden lungs. he answered flatly.

y sat for some moments, he r down at the rug and she at She had been so certain, so ly and youthfully certain, that d reached Utopia, she realized. ow she was learning that the she had been so proud to call sband, was of the same mold e rest.

ase go" she said. "I'd rath- alone. I want to think it all gh—"

course there was no thinking ough. She could only tell her- hat she had been a fool to ex- more. What had she seen in t the same story, written with g degrees of sordidness over over again?

thing she knew, growing hot resentment, and that was this had a right to have a place his father, to have all that he have had with a differ t

Her thoughts veered. For a she forgot the boy—Barrett's How she had loved Barrett and Frankly she had let him know Doubtless (she trembled at the ht), he had compared her ca- with others.

* * *

grins tapped on the door and she d it to take a note. Barrett written. "Dear, please eat some . You could have it in your Don't make me more unhappy I must be. Please keep well—

ll have dinner here in my room, ias," she said. "I have a slight ache—"

es, Mrs. Colvin. I'm sorry about eadache," Higgins answered and d away.

e night seemed endless. Street s chimed and for a short space almost gone. Then trucks be- to rumble and milk bottles to el- one another, rattling. Someone d whistling and a coarse broom ed on the pavement.

inor heard Barrett moving about our and through the crack below door she saw a light which con- d to burn as long as her eyes open. When the first of day d windows to oblongs of slate- she slept. She woke to hear and to see the somber light comes with a steady downpour. e dressed awkwardly, feeling the ness of the night and her new y.

arrett was at the breakfast table she appeared. Higgins was in room and Barrett arose, greeting as usual with a kiss.

didn't expect you down," he "I was afraid you hadn't slept ."

didn't. You didn't sleep well er, did you?"

No, dear." Higgins was gone now that the "dear" was not a pre- .

e saw that he could not eat and mere thought of food nauseated

What will we do?" she asked. horrible for both of us!"

God knows!" he answered hollow-

Barrett, I want to talk to you n you have the time—"

Any time you say," he answered. After breakfast then. In the li- y?"

If you like," he agreed. But what, he wondered, was there to be said? He pushed aside his plate and rose as she was rising.

* * *

The library windows opened on a little square of court. Elinor sat down before one of the open windows and Barrett drew a chair close, facing hers. But Elinor did not begin. She, too, was waiting.

"Of course," he said slowly, "you can have a divorce."

He saw the intensifying pain in her eyes and his heart warmed. He went on eagerly, "I suppose you'd want that. Is there any chance that you don't?"

"No," she told him. "Not now. I wouldn't want people to know, for one thing. Besides I am as happy here as I could be anywhere. If you don't mind, I'd rather just stay on until you don't want me—"

"But, Elinor, that will make—life imprisonment in this house for you. I'll always want you here. I don't see how I could let you go. I can't even imagine life without you, dear!"

He was looking down at his hands which he twisted. She wanted to lay a hand upon his arm and say, "What is the matter with us? We love each other. Why must we make each other so miserable?"

But she could not; she could not.

"What do you want?" Barrett asked slowly, raising his eyes to meet hers.

"I think I'd like to go somewhere in the country and try to make a home for that child," she answered. "Your adopted son. It isn't right for him to be kept away like that."

"Very well."

For a space they were both silent; then he spoke. "I have a chance to go with an expedition to South America. Shall I go?"

Her heart seemed to shrink, to grow small and become cold. "If you want to," she responded.

ELINOR could not see Barrett's eyes as he spoke. "I thought," he said wearily, "that it might be better for me to go away for a while. I thought perhaps you'd rather not see me often."

"This trip to South America—," she said hesitatingly, "is it work that interests you?"

"I would have—once," he replied.

Elinor rose then and started toward the door but he halted her.

"Elinor!" Barrett said brokenly.

She paused without answering.

"Don't hate me more than you have to, will you? I'm sorry I can't explain it all to you. I'm only trying to do the right thing—"

"I don't hate you, Barrett," she assured him, "but I just can't—talk about it. I'm trying to see your side. Perhaps with time I'll be more reasonable. I hope so. I'll try to be! Just now—"

"Oh, I know!" he said darkly.

He was beside her and for a moment, with a harsh little murmur, he caught her in his arms, holding her close. She did not try to draw away, wanting to feel his arms about her, yet unable to yield, to let him know the emotion she felt.

When his arms dropped she said, "Barrett—"

"Yes, Elinor?"

"How long will you be gone?" There was fright in her voice and loneliness.

"Four or five months, I suppose," he answered. "Unless you should send word for me to come back and I don't suppose there's any hope of that."

(To be continued)

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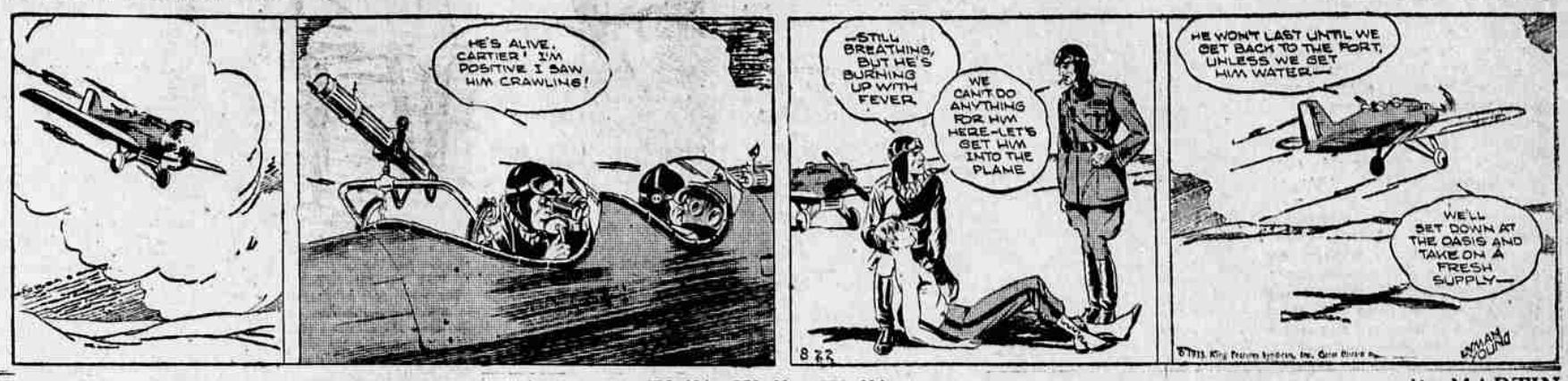

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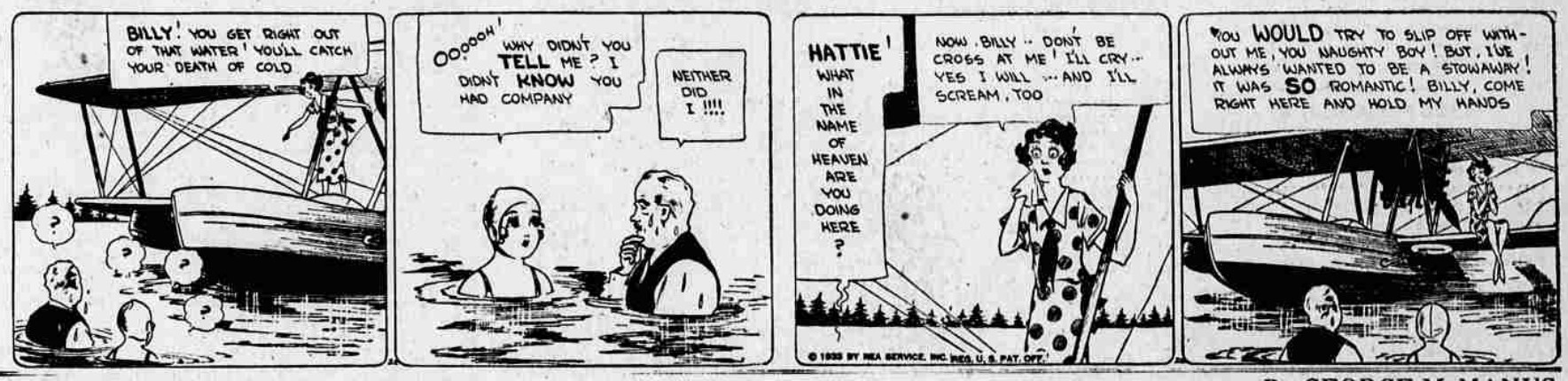

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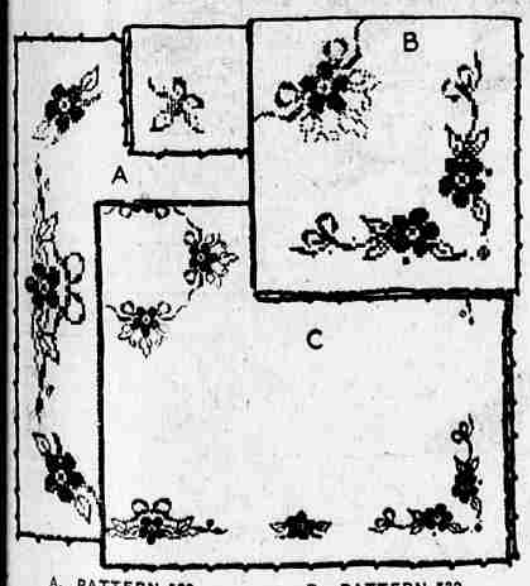

A. PATTERN 522 B. PATTERN 532

Cross stitch linens are smart—smart to have and smart to make. ple to do, the resulting linens have lasting value for they are ays in good taste. In this pattern, which is to be done in three ors, the large crosses make the design grow quickly. Embroider- is also simplified by distinct color marking on the pattern itself, ch eliminates the need for a color chart. Each of the two pat- s shown can be used separately or can be combined to make dsome linens.

A. Pattern 522, includes four motifs 4½x15 inches, four motifs ½ inches, and eight 3½x4½ inch napkin motifs.

B. Pattern 523, includes four 11½ inch corner motifs, four 6x8½ motifs, and four napkin motifs same as those in Pattern 522.

A and B each show one arrangement of the motifs. C shows the patterns combined to make a handsome tablecloth 60x72 inches. re are many other ways of combining the two patterns. Each tern includes sketches with yardages for a variety of linens; tches with yardages for linens to be made of the combined pat- s are also given.

Send 10c for each pattern (20c for both) to Register-Guard Needle- Dept., 82 Eighth Avenue, New York City.